ſeemed to hym to haue altered their kindly courſe.

Lording) Spoken after the maner of Paddocks and Frogges ſitting which is indeed Lordly, not remouing nor looking once a ſide, vnleſſe they be ſturred.

Then as) The ſecond part. That is his manhoode.

Cotes) theepecotes. for ſuch be the exerciſes of ſhepheards.

Sale) or Salovv a kind of vvoodde like VVyllovv, fit to vvreath and bynde in leapes to catch fiſh vvithall.

Phæbe fayles) The Eclipſe of the Moone, vvhich is alwayes in Cauda or Capite Draconis, ſignes in heauen.

Venus) ſ. Venus ſtarre othervviſe called Heſperus and Veſper and Lucifer, both becauſe he ſeemeth to be one of the brighteſt ſtarres, and alſo firſt ryſeth and ſetteth laſt. All vvhich ſtill in ſtarres being conuenient for ſhepheardes to knovve as Theocritus and the reſt vſe.

Raging ſeaes) The cauſe of the ſvvelling and ebbing of the ſea commeth of the courſe of the Moone, ſometime encreaſing, ſometime wayning and decreaſing.

Sooth of byrdes) A kind of ſooth ſaying vſed in elder tymes, vvhich they gathered by the flying of byrds; Firſt (as is ſayd) niuented by the Thuſcanes, and frō them deriued to the Romanes, vvho (as is ſayd in Liuie) vvere ſo ſuperſticiouſly rooted in the ſame, that they agreed that euery Noble man ſhould put his ſonne to the Thuſcanes, by them to be brought vp in that knowledge.

Of herbes) That vvonderous thinges be wrought by herbes, aſvvell appeareth by the common vvorking of them in our bodies, as alſo by the vvonderful enchauntments and ſorceries that haue bene vvrought by them; inſomuch that it is ſayde that Circe a famous ſorcereſſe turned mē into ſondry kinds of beaſtes & Monſters, and onely by herbes: as the Poete ſayth Dea ſæua potentibus herbis &c.

Kidſt) kneweſt. Eare) of corne. Scathe) loſſe hinderaunce.

Euer among) Euer and anone.

This is my) The thyrde parte vvherein is ſet forth his ripe yeres as an vntimely harueſt, that bringeth little fruite.

The flagraunt flovvres) ſundry ſtudies and laudable partes of learning, vvherein how our Poete is ſeene, be they vvitneſſe vvhich are priuie to his ſtudy.

So now my yeere) The laſt part, vvherein is deſcribed his age by compariſon of vvyntrye ſtormes.

Carefull cold) for care is ſayd to coole the blood. Glee mirth)

Hoary froſt) A metaphore of hoary heares ſcattred lyke to a gray froſt.

Breeme) ſharpe and bitter.

Adievv delights) is a concluſion of all. vvhere in ſixe verſes he comprehendeth briefly all that vvas touched in this booke. In the firſt verſe his delights of youth generally, in the ſecond, the loue of Roſalind, in the thyrd, the keeping of ſheepe, vvhich is the argument of all Æglogues. In the fourth his complaints. And in the laſt two his profeſſed friendſhip and good vvill to his good friend Hobbinoll.

Embleme.

The meaning wherof is that all thinges periſh and come to theyr laſt end, but workes of learned vvits and monuments of Poetry abide for euer. And therefore Horace of his Odes a work though ful indede of great wit & learning, yet of no ſo great weight

vveight and importaunce boldly ſayth.

Exegi monimentum ære perennius,
Quod nec imber nec aquilo vorax &c

Therefore let not be enuied, that this Poete in his a Calendar, that ſhall endure as long as time &c. face and Ouid in the like.

Grande opus exegi quæ nec Iouis ira
Nec ferum poterit nec edax abolere ve

Loe I haue made a Calender for euery
That ſteele in ſtrength, and time in duran
And if I marked well the ſtarres reuolutio
It ſhall continewe till the worlds diſſol
To teach the ruder ſhepheard how to feed
And from the falſers fraud his folded floc
Goe lyttle Calender, thou haſt a free
Goe but a lowly gate emongſte the meane
Dare not to match thy pype with Tityrus
Nor with the Pilgrim that the Plough
But followe them farre off, and their high
The better pleaſe, the worſe deſpiſe. I aſk

Merce non merce